SAY IT AIN'T SO, REEGE PHILBIN ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT {page 10}

ON LITTLE FAITH NICOLE, KEITH OPEN UP ABOUT NEW DAUGHTER {page 12}

2011'S CLASS OF RISING STARS SCENE {page 10}

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CALGARY metro®
Wednesday, January 19, 2011
www.metronews.ca
News worth sharing.

Alert bus driver saves the day

- Stabbing victim found in parking lot of Franklin LRT station
- Bus driver tried to assist the man, called 911

KATIE TURNER/METRO

▶ Police confer at the scene where a Calgary Transit driver discovered a man who had been stabbed.

KATIE TURNER
CALGARY@METRONEWS.CA

Police are crediting a Calgary Transit driver for calling 911 when he found a stabbing victim at a northeast LRT station yesterday.

Around 4 p.m., police responded to a call from a bus driver who saw an injured man.

"Our bus driver was our original 911 caller that we had," said Sgt. John McCarthy. "He was just being a good citizen, sees this guy hurt, gets out of his bus and tries to help him."

McCarthy said a native male was transported to Foothills Hospital in stable condition while officers remained on scene to question witnesses.

Police later confirmed that three suspects have been taken into custody and that officers are trying to determine their involvement in the incident.

Police said they are not looking for any more suspects at this time.

Local news

AHS condemns 3 houses

- Properties near site of gas leak fail air quality test
- Officials cite high levels of benzene and other chemicals

{page 3}

Give yourself royal treatment

Travel company offers walking tour of sites linked to Kate and William {page 15}

Breathe easy, music fans

Sled Island festival finds funding {page 4}

The case for keeping Kipper

Costello: Flames should stay the course in the crease {page 22}

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Aldermen urging land acquisition for SE LRT

Four Calgary aldermen will be pushing for more transit in the southeast quadrant during a city meeting today.

Calgary Transit will present a city committee with options for allocating provincial Green Trip funding — money that is intended to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and take cars off the road.

However, some aldermen are arguing the plan is not inclusive enough of the southeast.

Shane Keating, Gian-Carlo Carra, Andre Chabot and Peter Demong will put forward their own proposal suggesting that Calgary Transit secure the land for a future LRT line.

"What we're focusing on is land acquisition, comprehensive planning and then setting up a right-of-way that maybe won't take light rail right away but it will take separated bus transit," said Carra.

Keating said the city needs to begin building a foundation for southeast transit now as it will take several years to complete.

"We know where they're going to go, so let's buy the land," he said. "Unless you start it moving, it may never get to its destination."

Transit planning manager Neil McKendrick said Calgary Transit is focusing on purchasing between 20 and 50 light-rail vehicles to begin retiring older cars and eventually create four-car trains.

He said the aldermen's proposed plan would need to be looked at in greater detail.

"At this point, it's a good idea. It certainly needs a lot more study and design."

KATIE TURNER

JEREMY NOLAIS/FOR METRO

▶ Neighbour Brian Parsons clears snow from the front of the residence that was home to the Hillier family, until high levels of benzene forced them to leave.

Homes condemned after chemical leak

Two properties vacated on Bow Crescent NW ◐ Air filtration system installed in third impacted residence ◐ Company responsible says it has covered expenses of those affected

Alberta Health Services has recommended that three homes in Bowness be vacated due to high levels of the hydrocarbon benzene and other chemicals caused by a gasoline leak last April.

Early last month, Alberta Environment ordered Gas Plus, which owns the site where the leak occurred at 6336 Bowness Rd. NW, to take remedial actions.

As air quality testing began in homes on Bow Crescent NW, poor results led John Hillier, his wife Melinda, her brother and their two children to spend Christmas in a local hotel.

On Dec. 29, the family received official word from Alberta Health Services that the house they had been renting for eight years was condemned and it was unclear when, if ever, they would be able to return.

"It's been hard for everybody," John Hillier said.

"You wonder what the long-term health effects will be on my family ... Nobody has told us anything."

Dr. Richard Musto, Calgary's medical officer of health, said typically serious health complications only come from long-term exposure to benzene, but couldn't say what risks the Hillier family was facing.

JEREMY NOLAIS

Background

- Up to 9,000 litres of gasoline leaked into the soil from a Gas Plus Station.
- John Hillier said air quality testing in his home revealed benzene levels up to 20 times more than what is considered safe.
- Gas Plus president Sal Handel has said it could take up to three years to fully clean up the leak.

1 news

When fists fly, not all participants at a pub brawl are willing. Scan the code for the story.

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Thousands of officers march at the funeral for Sgt. Ryan Russell, who died while trying to stop a stolen snowplow in Toronto. Video at metronews.ca

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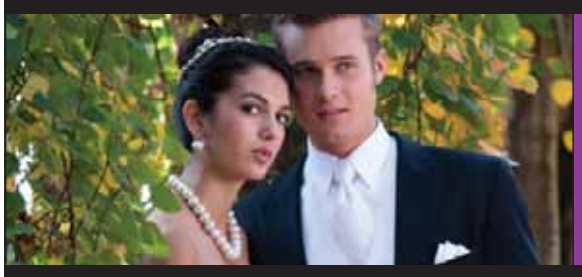

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Feds call for inquiry into alleged rape

- [illegible]
- assaulted by Mexican police officers
- Local authorities dispute her story

Ottawa is asking the Mexican government to "get to the bottom" of allegations a Canadian tourist was gang-raped and robbed by Mexican police on New Year's Eve.

"We have asked the Mexican ambassador not only to look at (this case) but we've asked him to set an inquiry in place," Foreign Affairs Minister Lawrence Cannon said yesterday.

Rebecca Rutland, 41, told the CBC she was vacationing in Playa del Carmen when a confrontation broke out between Mexican officers and her fiancé, Richard Coleman, 51. Rutland said she was taken to the police station and raped by two officers while a supervisor looked on.

Coleman said he learned about Rutland's alleged rape from fellow inmates and then tried to kill himself, hoping the act would draw attention to his partner's plight.

Mexican authorities said yesterday that Rutland and Coleman were intoxicated and "started a fight and attacked each other." They hit a car whose driver requested the assistance of the police, the Embassy of Mexico in Canada said.

Rutland filed a complaint at the district attorney's office after her release from jail and a formal investigation "immediately began," the embassy said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Religious. Ritual

▶ Russian believers lower a young girl into ice cold water to mark the upcoming Epiphany in northwestern Moscow, yesterday.

MIKHAIL METZEL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chilly devotion

Thousands of Russian Orthodox Church followers plunged yesterday into icy rivers and ponds across the country to mark the upcoming Epiphany, cleansing themselves with water deemed holy for the day.

The two best ways to treat a hangover

New research claims all you really need to cure a hangover is a cup of coffee and aspirin — at least if you're a rat with a soft spot for ethanol.

Professor Michael Oshinsky, of Thomas Jefferson University in Philadelphia, induced headaches in rodents by injecting them with ethanol. Ethanol, like many bar drinks, produces acetate in the body when it is metabolized, and it is here, he believes, where the cause of our post-drink head pain resides.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Rats feel our pain

Professor Michael Oshinsky insists that none of the commonly cited causes of hangovers could have caused the headaches in his lab rats.

- **The rats** were injected with ethanol, so they were not dehydrated.
- **The pure alcohol** used was also free of the toxins and additives often blamed for hangovers brought on by mass-produced booze.

Sled Island festival stays alive

Music fans across Calgary can rejoice, as Sled Island is returning for a fifth year.

In an interview yesterday, founder Zak Pashak confirmed the indie music festival has received the necessary funding to stay alive. In November, Pashak made it clear up to $300,000 would be needed to fund full-time staff and cover other festival-related costs. Last week, Sled Island posted an announcement on Facebook that read "All systems go. Thank you (government) of Alberta and City of Calgary for your arts support."

Yesterday, Pashak wouldn't elaborate on specifically who is funding this year's festival. "It's just a variety of different sources," he said.

JEREMY NOLAIS

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Market moment

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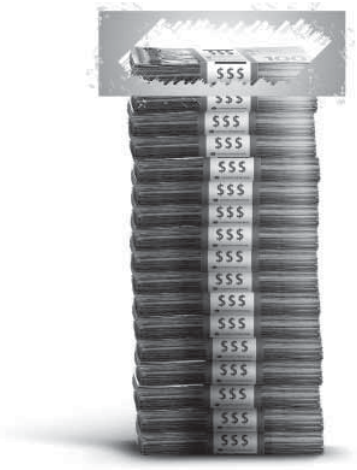

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Doll. Fight

▶ Part of the 2010 collection of sassy and street-wise Bratz dolls.

MGA ENTERTAINMENT/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Battle of the Bratz dolls in court

Mattel Inc. and bitter rival MGA Entertainment Inc. are back in court in their years-long legal battle to determine who owns the right to make and market Bratz dolls.

Economy better, but no hike in interest rates

Bank of Canada warned credit market has become overheated ◐ Concern about loonie at parity with U.S. dollar

The Bank of Canada says the economic recovery has gathered strength both at home and abroad, but not enough to encourage it to start raising interest rates from their current ultra-low levels.

The central bank kept its trendsetting overnight rate at one per cent yesterday, the third time it has done so since September — and gave no clear indication as to when it might start tightening again.

The bank did say the recovery is proceeding at a faster pace than it anticipated, particularly in the U.S., but cited ongoing risks, including sovereign debt difficulties in Europe and weak finances of international banks.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Inflation

The bank noted that underlying inflation pressures remain subdued and there is still plenty of slack in the economy.

▶ **Housing** Unusually, the bank did not mention Canada's housing market in its statement.

Calgary's real estate rebounds: CREB

In its annual forecast released yesterday, the Calgary Real Estate Board said local housing inventory levels are expected to stabilize and forecasts single-family home sales will increase by nearly 20 per cent and condominium sales will rise nearly 16 per cent.

Single-family home sales were the lowest in more than a decade last year.

"We have been hit fairly dramatically in the last year, so 20 per cent is really relative to the drop we have had in the last year," CREB president Sano Stante said.

METRO

Facebook's privacy changes

Facebook says it has disabled a feature that lets users share their address and phone number with external websites and applications after criticism from security experts.

Facebook said it is making changes so that users only share information when they want.

Users, for example, could share their address with applications such as shopping websites for easier access.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Look forward to the retirement you want by planning ahead now.

By **Victor Dodig**
Executive Vice-President
CIBC

Not everyone shares the same idea of the perfect retirement, but all Canadians can work towards realizing their individual goals – enjoying more free time, less pressure, maybe even that favourite hobby – with smart planning and professional advice. So what can you do today to plan for the retirement you want tomorrow?

Starting a retirement plan can be as simple as talking to an advisor. Planning your future takes a lot less time than you might think. An advisor can help take the pressure out of planning and make sense of the numerous savings and investment options available to you.

To build a retirement plan, you need to have a clear idea of your goals. Then, an advisor can help you assess where you now stand financially, calculate how much money you will need to support your chosen retirement lifestyle and determine what sources that income will come from, which could include: a pension, Registered Retirement Savings Plan (RRSP), Tax-Free Savings Account (TFSA), or non-registered investments. An advisor can also discuss other important considerations such as inflation and healthcare costs.

Everyone has a different time schedule for retirement and an advisor can help you determine your appropriate investment mix including savings accounts, GICs, mutual funds, managed portfolios or brokerage solutions. Since your plan is a long-term one, it's essential that you consider the long-term return potential and level of risk of any investment before adding it to your retirement portfolio.

One of the easiest ways to make saving for retirement a priority is to set up a regular investment plan.

As smaller contributions are often easier to make on an ongoing basis, a regular investment plan starts to work for you right away by moving you closer towards your goals with each contribution while compounding interest, dividends or investment growth.

Most importantly, if you haven't already, start planning today. Get help from an advisor to prepare a retirement plan, put it into action and review it regularly to ensure you stay on track. The more time your investments have to grow, the greater your returns will be. Successful retirement planning means being realistic about what you need to do today to reach those goals tomorrow.

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At CIBC, we believe that financial advice for today's needs or retirement goals should be available and accessible to everyone. And that making investment decisions doesn't have to be difficult or take a lot of time. A CIBC advisor will work with you to provide personalized retirement advice and help you select the right investment solutions to meet your goals.

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PRACTISE RANDOM ACTS OF KINDNESS

Just sayin'

PAUL SULLIVAN

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was a great man.

I mean, he has his own holiday, observed across the U.S. this past Monday. Anyone responsible for a long weekend is great by definition.

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. was a giant in the field of human rights, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize and a great orator.

I really admire King, but he's kind of hard to live up to.

For example, he said: "Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere." He wrote that from a jail in Birmingham, Ala., into which he was thrown for non-violent protest on behalf of African-American rights.

He also said: "I submit to you that if a man hasn't discovered something he will die for, he isn't fit to live."

I wonder how many of us woke up this morning dedicated to that idea.

Then there is:

"Life's most persistent and urgent question is: What are you doing for others?"

Sometimes I wish King had less to say.

I guess the beginning of a new year is always a good time to review what you're willing to die for or what you're doing for others, instead of the usual guff about diet and exercise.

I'll get back to you on the first one.

As for the second one, I could argue that this column is one thing I'm doing for others, but others could (and do) argue that it's one thing I'm doing TO others.

"'We believe that being kind to one another is fundamental to making the world a better place.'"

Actually, I found the quote about life's most persistent and urgent question on a website called People United, a little outfit in Canterbury, England, which is exclusively dedicated to something called kindness: "We believe that being kind to one another is fundamental to making the world a better place."

As mission statements go, it's hard to dispute. Kindness, apparently, "grows trust, friendship, and a common sense of community." A lack of kindness "breeds intolerance, injustice and inhumanity," all stuff King did not approve of.

It's something we can all do. A little kindness won't, um, kill us.

People United's recipe for kindness: "From a neighbourly smile and a helping hand to ongoing ethical conduct and active altruism, kindness is demonstrated in many different ways."

Don't forget to stir frequently.

Today, I'm following Step 1: The "neighbourly smile." It's a long way from "active altruism," but I need to start somewhere.

Hey, Dr. King! I have a dream, too … of sorts.

Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsaying

Cartoon

MICHAEL DE ADDER

'Choose a job you love'

Letters & Tweets

We asked: How would you describe your dream job?

@everlastinglife: One word: Mythbuster.

@oceaneclipse: surfboard tester living in the tropics. Oh wait, that's what I actually do!!!

@Phanyxx: Awesomeness Consultant. For the corporation that's evaluated everything else.

@sarahleec: Confucius: "Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life."

@WhatsForLunchBC: international restaurant and cocktail critic, preferably for an airline magazine.

@mrslprime: Librarian!

@nicolb: Professional vacation critic.

@kmyles: 10% work, 90% pay. #dreamjob.

@Maxspeedca: To become a filmmaker and make other peoples dreams come true.

@sagalali: my dream job would be one I'd do for free (but get paid to do it anyway).

@timothyhc: Something that combines my passion with my professional experience/training — my current job!!!

Surf's up

GETTY IMAGES

Who was your role model growing up?

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Metro Minute at improv jam

Laughter will be on the menu this evening at Café Koi as it hosts a comedy improv jam.

Hosted by The 404s Improve Comedy group, the cast for the jam will be chosen from the audience and participate in a variety of both classic and unorthodox games.

The jam is intended to be friendly and open to anyone, regardless of their performing experience.

The festivities are scheduled to get underway at 9 p.m.

There is no cost to enter, but attendees are encouraged to pay what they want on their way out.

Café Koi is located at 1011–1st St. SW.

METRO

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Members of The 404s Improv Comedy group.

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Rising stars of 2011

3 MUSICIANS TO WATCH

Metro music reporter Pat Healy on what your 2011 should sound like

Sharon Van Etten
You'll be obsessed with her spooky arrangements, confident melodies and wise words.

Champagne Champagne
A merger of the positive rap of the Native Tongues Posse with stoner soundscapes and funny rhymes.

Men
Their new album is full of the type of dance-pop that is at once rocking, melodic, sinister and fun.

"The Rachel"

There was a time in the mid '90s when women barraged their hair salons with photos of Jennifer Aniston to copy her haircut.

The layered cut was given the name "The Rachel" for Aniston's character Rachel Green on the Friends television series. One person who was not a fan of "The Rachel," however, was Aniston herself.

Aniston tells the February issue of Allure magazine it was not her best look.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Metro's Heidi Patalano checked in with Movies.com film critic Dave White to find out which film performances are worth seeing

ALL PHOTOS: GETTY IMAGES

ELLE FANNING
Age: 12
Where you've seen her: Somewhere, The Curious Case of Benjamin Button
Where you'll see her next: Super 8, We Bought a Zoo
Why she's a rising star: "Elle Fanning, through the first, single-digit years of her life, was in these kind of prestige films, like Babel and indie dramas by cool up-and-coming directors," says White. "She has that same quality as her sister [Dakota] that's 'I'm way older than you think I am.'"

HAILEE STEINFELD
Age: 15
Where you've seen her: True Grit
Where you'll see her next: Maybe at the Oscars?
Why she's a rising star: "She's getting all kinds of talk for Oscar nominations," says White. "She holds her own against Jeff Bridges. She commands that screentime."

GARRETT HEDLUND
Age: 26
Where you've seen him: TRON: Legacy, Country Strong
Where you'll see him next: On the Road
Why he's a rising star: "That dude is going to be Brad Pitt. There's almost nothing stopping him," White says. "[In Country Strong] he plays a young earnest singer/songwriter and he moves and acts just like Brad Pitt in Thelma and Louise — the cowboy hat doesn't hurt."

ANDREW GARFIELD
Age: 27
Where you've seen him: The Social Network, Never Let Me Go
Where you'll see him next: The Spiderman reboot
Why he's a rising star: "He got a lot of attention for The Social Network," says White. "He's got some Oscar nomination talk."

JENNIFER LAWRENCE
Age: 20
Where you've seen her: Winter's Bone
Where you'll see her next: X-Men: First Class, The Beaver
Why she's a rising star: "She commanded every moment of [Winter's Bone]," says White. "She's a serious girl. There's no doubt that she's got a career ahead of her in serious-minded stuff if she wants it."

CHLOE MORETZ
Age: 13
Where you've seen her: Kick-Ass, Let Me In
Where you'll see her next: Hugo Cabret, The Fields
Why she's a rising star: "You have an army of child actors out there and the unusual, striking ones stand out," White says. "Kick-Ass and Let Me In were adult films that were way beyond what a kid would normally be a part of."

Metro television reporter Amber Ray on who to watch out for on your television this year

MIREILLE ENOS
Enos is mesmerizing as the lead homicide detective in the murder investigation of a teenage girl in the new AMC crime thriller The Killing.

EMILIA CLARKE
Clarke plays the pivotal role of exiled princess in HBO's adaptation of George R. R. Martin's epic fantasy novel, A Game of Thrones.

LANDON LIBOIRON
Liboiron, of Degrassi: The Next Generation, has a starring role in Steven Spielberg's big budget sci-fi series Terra Nova.

CHRIS PIZZELLO/AP PHOTO

Regis Philbin

Regis to retire

Distributors say the Live franchise will continue
New co-host will be named to join Ripa on talk show

For such a famously excitable guy, Regis Philbin made his big announcement with surprising calm: He's retiring from his show.

Philbin delivered the news at the start of yesterday's Live With Regis and Kelly, which he has hosted for more than a quarter-century, most recently sharing hosting duties with Kelly Ripa.

Regis said he would be stepping down from the show around the end of the summer, though he didn't specify a departure date.

"There is a time that everything must come to an end for certain people on camera — especially certain old people," cracked Philbin, who turns 80 in August.

Since the 1950s, Philbin has been a TV fixture.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Pretenders, Faith Hill team for live episode of CMT Crossroads at Super Bowl celebration.

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A little Faith for Nicole and Keith

Daughter born to surrogate • Couple tried to keep it quiet, sources say

Nicole Kidman and Keith Urban quietly welcomed a new baby last month, the actress announced.

"Keith Urban, Nicole Kidman and their two-year-old daughter, Sunday Rose, today announced a new addition to their family, Faith Margaret Kidman Urban," according to a statement from the family.

"Born through a gestational carrier at Nashville's Centennial Women's Hospital on Dec. 28, 2010, Faith Margaret is Urban and Kidman's biological daughter."

METRO

"No words can adequately convey the incredible gratitude we feel for everyone who was so supportive throughout this process."
FAMILY STATEMENT

FRAZER HARRISON/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Nicole Kidman and Keith Urban have confirmed the birth of their second child, Faith.

Talking points

Spears to adopt?

Britney Spears may be looking to expand her family through adoption, according to Australian magazine New Weekly. Spears has reportedly been advised against getting pregnant again, as she would have to stop taking antipsychotic medication, sources say. But boyfriend Jason Trawick might not be on board with the plan. "I know he likes the idea of getting married," a friend of Trawick's says. "But being dad to a house full of kids that aren't even his? I don't see it."

METRO

Douglas's golden comeback

Michael Douglas's appearance at the Golden Globes over the weekend was his first since winning his battle with throat cancer, and he's understandably thrilled to be going about his business again. "Tumour's gone, and this type of cancer doesn't usually come back," he tells E! News at the awards show. "I've got to check in every month. I'm so happy to be out. This is our first time out in months and months, and to be able to come to this thing cancer-free is pretty special."

METRO

Michael Douglas: Happy to be here

Celebrity tweets

Carrie Fisher [@carrieffisher]
I feel like a total gonk promoting anything, it's not my style. But it actually works so there.

Eli Roth [@eliroth]
Did Growing Pains have a character named Boner or am I imagining that again?

50 Cent [@50cent]
I had a dream last night I had two beautiful women in my bed. then woke up In bed by my self I'm going back to sleep.

Conan O'Brien [@ConanOBrien]
Just saved 12 whole cents by buying un-waxed dental floss, and waxing it myself. METRO

Strong attraction?

Leighton Meester and Garrett Hedlund got cozy on-screen in Country Strong, but have they taken their work home with them as well? Us Weekly reports the pair were "inseparable the entire night" at a Golden Globes after-party and were spotted leaving together, with Hedlund massaging Meester's shoulders as they went.

METRO

The kid's all right, Lohan's dad says

Michael Lohan insists his daughter, Lindsay Lohan, has turned over a new leaf since leaving rehab.

"We went to an AA meeting last night then went home and had a quiet night," Michael tells Hollyscoop. "She changed back to the girl she used to be. When she was at her best — literally. She's done a 1-80 and I'm very proud of her."

The proud father is also fine with Lindsay moving to bohemian hotspot Venice Beach instead of staying in Hollywood.

"I don't think it matters where someone lives because you're going to find the elements of addiction, the wrong people, and places no matter where you are," he says.

METRO

JOHN W. FERGUSON/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Michael Lohan

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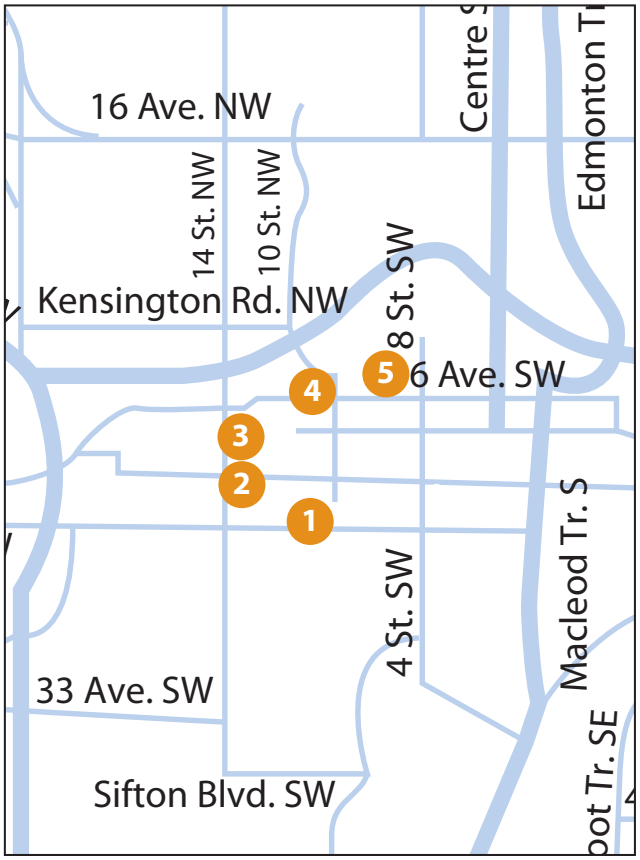

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3 life

News in brief

It was the site of one of the biggest and bloodiest battles during the War of 1812.

From Jan. 18 to 23, 1813, British and U.S. forces clashed at Frenchtown, now Monroe, Mich., on the north bank of the River Raisin.

In the end the British with their Indian allies wiped out an entire American army. The bloodletting — especially the massacre of wounded American soldiers — gave rise to one of the war's American rallying cries: "Remember the Raisin!"

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Integrate Facebook, TripAdvisor accounts to identify friends with travel advice

With 10 miles of beaches and the Sierra Madres not too far away, Mazatlan's wonders never cease to amaze Explore the city's culture, but bull fights aren't for the faint of heart

DARREN PARKMAN/METRO

Mexico's hidden gem: Mazatlan

THE TRAVELLIN' CANADIAN

DARREN PARKMAN
TRAVEL@METRONEWS.CA

Just up the coast from all the hustle and bustle of Puerto Vallarta sits a city known as Mexico's "Pearl of the Pacific."

Little Mazatlan has everything you could ever want in a Mexican resort destination.

The city's Golden Zone features 10 miles of uninterrupted beaches, and in some areas the waves are high enough to attract local and visiting surfers.

During a day tour of the nearby Sierra Madre Mountains, I was fascinated to catch a glimpse of real Mexican culture in a remote village at the foot of the beautiful mountains.

While strolling through this town, which dates back to the 16th century, I came across a church in the middle of nowhere decorated with a beautiful baroque façade and elaborately decorated columns.

The local people couldn't have been more easy going and friendly either.

All this relaxed culture even inspired me to partake in another famous local tradition: the weekly bullfight at the Plaza De Toros Monumentual.

This, I admit, was a mistake. These authentic bullfights are not for the faint-hearted. In fact, they aren't for the strong-hearted either.

FLICKR: ALASKAN DUDE

▶ The cathedral in downtown Mazatlan.

Be warned, this is a very violent, and bloody event, that never ends well for the poor bull. Surveying the audience of mostly thrilled locals, I noticed I wasn't the only shocked tourist in the crowded arena.

Still, sacrificing bulls is a longstanding tradition dating back to prehistoric times in Europe, and it's nice to know the poor bull isn't wasted.

Spectators are invited to attend a post bullfight barbecue afterwards. I confess, I couldn't quite bring myself to attend that celebration.

I was happy to retreat to an unbroken stretch of golden sand in an area famous for its perpetual summer-like weather. Who needs bullfighting?

Partying & fishing

Here are some other cool things to do in Mazatlan.

Hang Out at Joe's Oyster Bar. This is the most fun and famous bar in the city. Located right on the beach, you can gaze out on the bay of Mazatlan and party the night away.

Go fishing for giant marlin. There are no less than eight fleets of charter boats ready to take tourist out year round in search of huge sailfish, marlin, wahoo, shrimp and tuna.

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▶ People leave the Westminster Abbey in London, a destination on the Will and Kate Royal Wedding Walking Tour. Westminster Abbey is where their wedding is to take place on April 29.

SANG TAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Tour guide of Will and Kate Royal Wedding Walking Tour, Hana Umezawa, centre, talks to a tour group at the Ritz hotel in London.

SANG TAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ The wedding of Britain's Prince William and his fiancée Kate Middleton is expected to give a boost to tourism.

Walk a mile in a royal couple's footsteps

Tour groups are cashing in on the upcoming wedding of Kate and William with a themed walk around London

Not invited to Kate and William's wedding? Fear not. For a price, royalist romantics can follow in the happy couple's footsteps on a London walking tour.

Among the hundreds of British firms hoping for a boost in business because of April's royal wedding is Celebrity Planet, a London-based travel company offering a tour of sites with links to Prince William and his fiancée, Kate Middleton.

The two-hour amble through a wealthy swath of London charts the highs and lows of the royal romance as breathlessly reported in the U.K.'s tireless tabloid media. One of the first stops is a branch of Jigsaw, the clothing chain where Middleton was working as a part-time accessories buyer in 2007 when William got cold feet and broke off their relationship.

"It was while she was working here that she got the dreaded call from Prince William saying he just wasn't that interested," said tour guide Hana Umezawa, 25. "She burst into tears in front of all her colleagues."

More insights are on hand down the road outside Mahiki, a nightclub favoured by the young and wealthy, and by paparazzi hoping to see them behaving badly — and where tabloids reported Prince William racked up a bar bill of 11,000 pounds in a week after the break-up.

Fortunately for the British economy, by the end of 2007 the on-off romance that began when the couple were students at St. Andrew's University was on again.

The announcement of their engagement in November unleashed a flood of business opportunities. Mills and potteries from China to Stoke-on-Trent have produced vast volumes of plates, tea towels and other commemorative trinkets.

Tourist authority Visit Britain expects a surge in visitors this year because of the wedding, and airlines have already reported a boost in bookings out of the country for what will be a long weekend for most Britons. The government has made the day of the wedding — Friday, April 29 — a public holiday.

Neil Saunders, consulting director at retail analysts Verdict, has estimated the economic kick from the wedding could reach 620 million pounds (C$1 billion).

The royal tour is a new offering for Celebrity Planet, which runs "celebrity and pop-culture tours" in London, New York and several European cities. Its most popular London offerings include a Beatles walk and tours devoted to Harry Potter and Jack the Ripper.

The Kate and William walk stops at London landmarks like St. James's Palace — the residence of Princes William and Harry — and Westminster Abbey, where the prince and Middleton will be married by the Archbishop of Canterbury in front of more than 2,000 guests.

There are also lesser-known spots like jeweller Garrard, where William's father, Prince Charles, bought a diamond and sapphire engagement ring for his intended, Lady Diana Spencer. The ring passed to Diana's children after her death in a car accident in 1997, and William gave it to Kate when they became engaged.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Check out Seattle's slippery salmon

THE TRAVELLIN' CANADIAN

DARREN PARKMAN
TRAVEL@METRONEWS.CA

After you've reached the top of Seattle's famous Space Needle and checked out the stunning waterfront, try putting a grip on a 20-pound flying, slimy salmon!

Seattle's Pike Place Market is about the only place in the world you can give it a try, and believe me, it ain't easy. It's a long standing tradition for market fishmongers to toss a customer's salmon 10 feet through the air to an area behind the counter for wrapping. This unique show attracts tons of tourists daily who gather around to behold the famous flying fish.

After observing these skilled throwers, I decided to try my luck at snatching a mid-air salmon or two. From a good 10 feet away the first one, a big wet 15 pounder, suddenly hit me square between the shoulders, almost knocking me to the ground. Not quite the result I was hoping for. The second fish-missile, which came a few seconds later, I miraculously did manage to somehow snatch out of the air, at least for a few seconds. I desperately attempted to grasp this slimy prize as it slid around before landing unceremoniously on the floor.

Oh well, it's the effort that counts. Pike Place market is a vibrant beehive of activity, with great performing street characters, fresh local produce, and even a very cool magic shop. Just a stones throw from the market is another must see — historic Pioneer Square. Rich architecture, cobblestone streets, galleries and funky bars make up this area, which is Seattle's very first neighbourhood. This is also where some of the city's coolest jazz and rock clubs are found.

Despite all these fun things to do, two of Seattle's hottest tourist attractions still remain the nearby grave sites of Jimmy Hendrix and Bruce Lee. Go figure.

Sights to see

Here are some other fun things to do in Seattle.

- **Tour the Boeing Aircraft plant:** This is place where many of the big jets are born. Check out vintage aircraft and the future of aviation. Daily tours even include a rare glimpse of the gigantic new 787.
- **Take a streetcar along the waterfront:** For an incredibly measly 1 dollar, in off-peak hours, you can ride a vintage trolley along the famous waterfront strip. Here you'll find great seafood, souvenir shops and many other attractions.

FLICKR: MAT79

▶ Seattle's Pike Place Market has a tradition of throwing salmon 10 feet through the air. Catching these slippery 20-pounders is no easy task.

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Making connections while travelling alone

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EVELYN HANNON
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Remember back to your first day in Grade 1? You came into school excited but a bit worried that you wouldn't have anybody to talk to.

I've never been afraid to travel solo. I've been doing it for the past 37 years and I love it, but I do work on ways of meeting folks along the way. Here are some tips I've found helpful for making friends.

Seek out connections even before you leave home. Chat with women who've travelled before you. Make note of their tips, advice and contacts.

Speak to your friends and neighbours who were born in the country you're travelling to. There is a grandmother here or a sister there who will happily provide some wonderful connections for you.

Avoid large, impersonal hotels. Opt for a more friendly bed and breakfast experience where guests enjoy the morning meal together and often linger with coffee and great stories.

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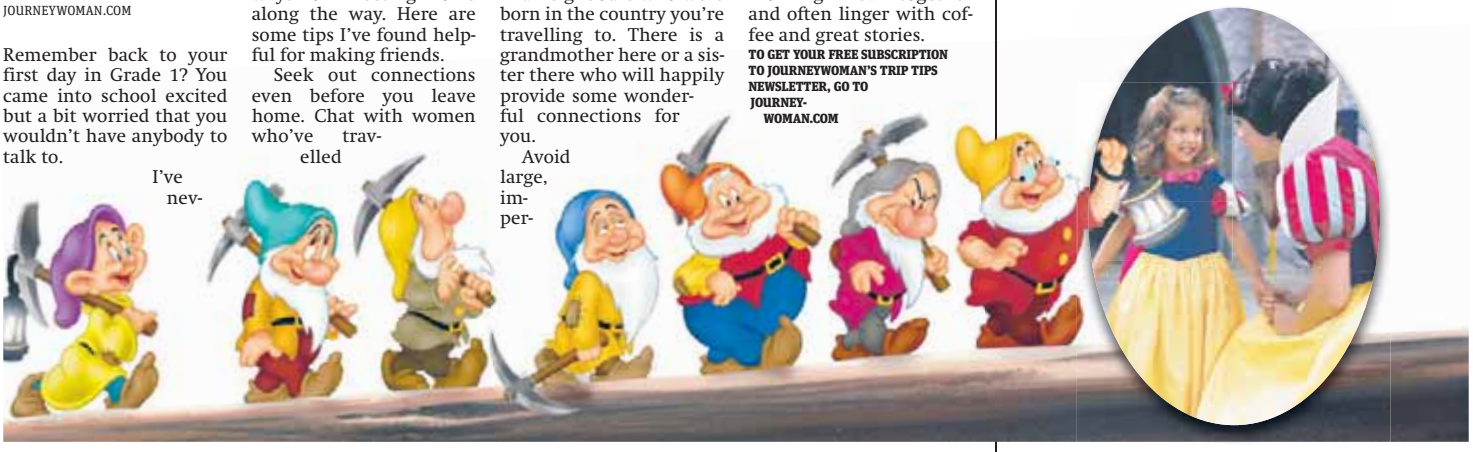

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Get an inside look at Alberta's oilsands

The Oilsands Discovery Centre in Fort McMurray gives visitors a chance to get their hands on the gooey stuff Check out the monster machines

BOB WEBER/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A giant bucket wheel looms over the "industrial garden" of the Oilsands Discovery Centre in Fort McMurray, Alta.

A thickset man with beefy arms struggles and strains as he tries to heave the metal rod out of the glass jar full of what looks like molasses, only thicker. Much thicker.

He grunts a few times, pulls the rod a couple centimetres further out of the black gunk, then gives up and turns around to his wife and son.

"Now that's viscosity," he says, impressed.

Nearby, another family is being impressed by the front end of an enormous dump truck that has wheels twice the height of a man. Outside the building sits giant machinery that is, well, impressive.

At what is probably Alberta's most controversial museum, it's all about the wow.

"A lot of visitors are amazed," says Nancy Dodsworth, director of the Oilsands Discovery Centre in Fort McMurray, Alta., less than an hour's drive from the massive industrial developments themselves. "They're wowed by the size of things."

If you want to get up close and personal with the energy resource that is either Canada's economic future or its environmental shame, depending on who's talking, the Discovery Centre is the place.

Here, you can actually pick up some oilsands and roll it around in your fingers — less gooey than you might think, but it does stain. You can bend down and sniff the stuff, savouring the petrochemical pong somewhere between tar and gasoline.

You can get a demonstration of how the bitumen (the viscous, black stuff in the jar) is separated from the sand. You can climb into the driver's seat of a dump truck taller than many homes and pretend you're churning down the haul road with a full load.

"It's an overall introduction to the oilsands experience," says Dodsworth.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Healthy sinful foods? Yes, it's possible

In her book, Healthy Sin Foods: 101 Delicious Recipes to Maximize Taste Nutrition and Lose Weight, author Dr. Joey Shulman tweaks your favourite recipes to create healthier versions Here, she shares one of her decadent creations

Nutritionist and weight-loss specialist Dr. Joey Shulman says you don't have to give up decadent foods to drop pounds.

In her book Healthy Sin Foods: 101 Delicious Recipes to Maximize Taste, Nutrition and Lose Weight, she includes tips on how to alter your favourite recipes to create healthier choices.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Dr. Joey Shulman's book reworks recipes to make them healthier.

Health Principles

Shulman has identified seven principles of health:

- **Your body has a voice — pay attention.**
- **Your body thrives on routine.**
- **Your body responds to nutrient-dense foods quickly.**
- **One of your body's key systems is the digestive system.**
- **You must move.**
- **Eat until you are sufficiently sufficed, not stuffed.**

California Walnut-Stuffed Salmon

This entree packs a "mega punch" with walnuts and salmon being rich in omega-3 fatty acids. Brown rice and spinach help round out the nutritional balance, plus add great flavour.

Preparation:

1. In a non-stick skillet, heat oil over medium heat. Add minched onion; cook until tender, about 5 minutes. Stir in spinach, garlic, salt and pepper. Cook just until spinach starts to wilt Remove from heat.
2. Add cooked rice to spinach and stir in lemon zest until well combined.
3. Spread spinach mix over salmon; sprinkle with cheese and walnuts. Roll up using toothpicks to secure. Place salmon on a parchment-lined baking sheet and bake in a 190 C (375 F) oven for 15 to 20 minutes.
4. Transfer to cutting board and let rest for 10 minutes before slicing. Serve with steamed vegetables.

Ingredients:

- 10 ml (2 tsp) olive oil
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) onion
- 1 l (4 cups) chopped spinach
- 1 clove garlic, minced
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) salt, pepper
- 250 ml (1 cup) cooked brown rice
- 10 ml (2 tsp) lemon zest
- 500 g (1 lb) salmon fillet, skinned and pin bones removed
- 50 ml (1/4 cup) shredded cheddar cheese
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) chopped walnuts

Whole-Grain Cinnamon Mandelbrot

The Jewish cookie mandelbrot, which translates as "almond bread," is similar in taste to Italian biscotti.

Shulman developed a version using whole-wheat flour, which she says "sounds like an oxymoron."

But everyone who tried them proclaimed them delicious, she said.

She recommends mandelbrot be consumed as an occasional treat.

Preparation:

1. In a large bowl, beat eggs until bubbly. Add sugar, oil and vanilla and continue to beat. Stir in flour and baking powder a bit at a time and beat. Stir in chocolate chips, almonds and cinnamon.
2. On a buttered or oiled baking sheet, spoon mixture into 3 long, skinny rows.
3. Bake in a 160 C (325 F) oven for 20 to 30 minutes and remove.
4. Slice and separate into pieces and return to a 120 C (250 F) oven for 15 to 20 minutes. Brown carefully (while watching) under boiler.

Ingredients:

- 3 omega-3 eggs
- 250 ml (1 cup) brown sugar
- 250 ml (1 cup) canola oil
- 5 ml (1 tsp) vanilla
- 500 ml (2 cups) whole-wheat flour
- 7 ml (1 1/2 tsp) baking powder
- 250 ml (1 cup) dark chocolate chips
- 250 ml (1 cup) ground almonds
- 5 ml (1 tsp) cinnamon

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Bringing joy to your job

Are you surrounded by frowns at the office? Take the initiative and try soliciting an extra smile

DREW HINSHAW
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

Misery loves company, and for some companies – where bad moods fester like a corporate curse – the feeling appears mutual.

In this, our aggravating third year in the economic doldrums, career counsellors say all too many businesses are fixating on their bottom line, while their worker morale bottoms out.

Which is ruinous, life coach Christiane Turnheim says, because companies that let their office vibe devolve into a passive aggressive crabapple brawl lose more than their sense of patience or humour. They lose clients, sales, hours everyday worth of productivity, and eventually, those employees themselves.

"The jobs people really like are the ones where they get positive feedback, either from customers, co-workers or management," the Massachusetts-based career coach and Psychology professor says. "Very often, co-workers may not work up to their potential because they feel that nobody notices, recognizes, or appreciates them."

If you find yourself, a relentless optimist, trapped in an office where the social thermostat seems snagged on 'frigid,' be realistic about how much warmth you can bring into the workplace.

"You can't change your boss, and you can't change the culture in your organization," explains Barbara Glanz, author of 180 Ways to Spread Contagious Enthusiasm. "All you can change are your interactions in your own sphere."

That said, a few mere minutes of personable chitchat between colleagues, she says, can leave a mood-boosting half-life that lasts all day.

"Create a human level connection," Glanz advises. "Look people in the eye, listen to what they say, remember their name, connect with them."

And don't be afraid to let the conversation wander off-campus.

"Talk to them about something other than business, to say 'I see you as a human being,'" Glanz adds.

If your water cooler dialogue consistently fails to escape the gravity of company gossip and dreary shop talk, institutionalize some small talk, Glanz recommends.

ISTOCK

Starting off every meeting with three minutes of good news can profoundly affect the atmosphere of your workplace.

SLOPPY SEND-OFF

Workplace Law

DANIEL LUBLIN

IS AN EMPLOYMENT LAWYER WITH WHITTEN & LUBLIN LLP. DAN@CANADAEMPLOYMENTLAWYER.COM

Employee misconduct may be present but in Canadian workplace law it seldom matters if an employer does not act fairly toward its employee. UPS learned this the hard way in its recent termination of a long term employee.

21-year company veteran Wally Lysecky was only a few years away from retirement when UPS suspected he was accepting kickbacks and, without warning, suspended him from work pending an investigation.

UPS quickly investigated but was unable to find any actual evidence of a theft or fraud. Despite this, it fired Lysecky anyway, believing he must have been involved in some form of wrongdoing. By then, rumours were flying that Lysecky had been fired for stealing the company's money and, despite its investigation that showed otherwise, UPS did nothing to stop them.

At trial, the Court found that UPS conducted a perfunctory investigation, meaning that Lysecky's fate had been condemned even before the investigation began. Since UPS suspected a fraud, its investigation pre-supposed that Lysecky was part of it. When the evidence exonerated Lysecky from fraud, UPS continued to blame him for it anyway.

In finding that UPS did not conduct a neutral investigation, the court overturned Lysecky's termination, awarding him almost one year's salary. It then penalized UPS for its handling of the matter by awarding Lysecky an additional $20,000 for damages to his reputation.

UPS failed to "get it right" before pulling the trigger and it cost them. The difference between a neutral investigation and one with the appearance of bias often makes the difference at trial.

There are clear lessons for both employers and employees:

- Workplace investigations should be conducted by a neutral third party investigator, or a lawyer retained for that purpose, not a human resources representative. Even the appearance of partiality can undo the results.

- Employers should resist taking any adverse steps against an employee suspected of fraud, as tempting as it may be, until the investigation is complete.

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Should students be allowed to flunk?

Studies show that grade retention – or failing – can be highly detrimental to a student's overall success

ISTOCK

Researchers have found that students held back due to a failing grade are more likely to face social and economic roadblocks.

Grade retention, also called 'failing,' means that a student is required to repeat the same grade due to lack of achievement.

Research over the past 100 years has shown that grade retention does not benefit students having academic or social adjustment difficulties compared to similar students who are not held back to repeat a grade. In fact, grade retention has consistently been associated with negative outcomes.

• Students who are required to repeat a grade are more likely to drop out of high school and less likely to attend post-secondary education. Grade retention is one of the most powerful predictors of dropping out of high school, regardless of when retention occurs.

• Grade retention is associated with increased behavioural problems.

• Grade retention can have a negative impact on achievement and social and emotional adjustment.

• Retained students are more likely to have lower educational and employment outcomes during late adolescence and early adulthood.

• Retained students experience lower self-esteem and lower rates of school attendance.

Some parents and teachers believe that grade retention may be a good practice in certain circumstances, such as if instruction has been inconsistent due to family relocation, or if a student had serious illnesses or emotional trauma. However, no studies have been able to predict accurately which students will benefit from being retained, and the overall evidence is strongly against it.

Researchers advocate alternatives to grade retention, such as early intervention when students experience difficulties; reading programs, summer school, and tutoring while working closely with parents. Grade retention is not a remedy for poor academic performance; specific remedial strategies are needed to support the individual student.

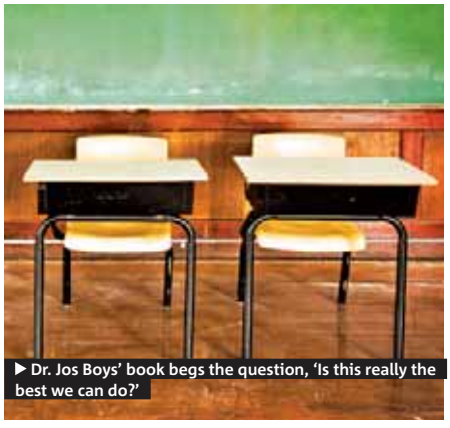
COURTESY OF THE CANADIAN EDUCATION ASSOCIATION (CEA) AND THE ONTARIO INSTITUTE FOR STUDIES IN EDUCATION/UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO (OISE/UT)

More details

Retention resources

For online resources on grade retention, and for the research references that inform this issue, visit cea-ace.ca.

ISTOCK



Dr. Jos Boys' book begs the question, 'Is this really the best we can do?'

Of classy rooms

English educator and architect Dr. Jos Boys' latest book, Towards Creative Learning Spaces, touches on common assumptions about the physical spaces of higher education.

What are common mistakes universities make when designing buildings?

Very few educational institutions really attempt to work out what are the distinctive characteristics of this kind of learning at post-compulsory level.

Creativity, for example, needs not just concentrated thinking and doing, but also opportunities for distraction and "mindlessness" — that is where ideas develop unconsciously.

What surprised you as you worked on this book?

The ideas going around were very basic — that if an environment looked "fun," then somehow fun and learning would automatically take place in it.

One of the key arguments in the book is that learning is a complicated process, where the interaction between student, teacher, place and context cannot be separated out.

When did you first think about the physical architecture of the classroom?

I was attempting to make a tree out of plasticine in primary school. The teacher insisted that I make it out of one round blob, stuck on top of a fat cylinder shape. This, I felt sure, was not what a tree looked like.

I did not want to be a passive consumer of what teachers told me.

When I went to architectural school, we were expected to design modernist buildings with glass facades and exposed concrete; I didn't see why that was the most appropriate form for human occupation.

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Talk about your plan with everyone

Tell anyone you can about your business idea. Feel free to keep sensitive information secret, but discussing your general idea is a great way to get your business brain going. You will be surprised by how many people have an opinion, know key people in an industry or have had an experience around the type of business you've chosen.

Print business cards to get inspired

It's a simple trick but it can really encourage you to make your plans a reality. It costs little, takes a few minutes and can make your business idea much more tangible.

Run your own focus group

Get a few friends, colleagues or whomever else you can get a hold of. Write down a list of questions related to your business plan and have an informal discussion. Bring up questions like, Would you buy this product? What do you hate about this industry? You'll be impressed at how much business planning material you'll get from even a small group of people.

Pictures

Don't be afraid to get creative in the appearance of your business plan. While you need to write a well-thought out description of your business ideas, insert a few colour pictures within the text to make a text-only document come alive. WSCANADA

ISTOCK

▶ Don't keep your best ideas under brain-lock. You never know how far they could take you.

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4 sports

Players pick their all-star captains

Now Lidstrom and Staal are faced with choosing star-studded teams

Not only have Eric Staal and Nicklas Lidstrom been put in charge of picking the NHL's all-star teams, they will also play a major role in determining whether the league's format change is a success.

The two soft-spoken captains will be front and centre when the teams are selected in a live television event a couple nights before the Jan. 30 game in Raleigh, N.C.

Buzz has been generated by the NHL's decision to stage a draft to divvy up the players. But the change comes with some risk since no one knows quite how it will come off.

"It's going to be on TSN live and there's going to be 18 rounds, (Staal and Lidstrom) had best be good for TV," said Glenn Healy, a former executive with the NHL Players' Association and current CBC commentator.

Lidstrom and Staal were each selected as team captains by their peers — a process that was conducted by consensus-building rather than with an actual vote.

NHLPA divisional player representative Steve Webb phoned each of the all-stars to talk about potential captains. Three names consistently came up: Lidstrom, Staal and Sidney Crosby, who remains sidelined with a concussion.

"Lidstrom was a no-brainer," said Webb. "The first couple guys I was calling right out of the gate were saying Staal. I think they recognized with Sidney — his name was always in there — but they always added Staal with Sid maybe not being able to appear."

It will certainly bring a rooting interest to a game that might not otherwise have one. Staal is a captain for the hometown Hurricanes and has hinted that he would like to use his first pick on teammate Cam Ward.

Lidstrom and Staal will have assistance in the form of two alternate captains. Those players are expected to be announced within the next week.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

PHOTO ILLUSTRATION/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Nicklas Lidstrom, left, and Eric Stall were named NHL all-star captains yesterday.

Quoted

"I'll be there if I can be there and I still haven't ruled out being there. Hopefully, in the next few days, things get better."

SIDNEY CROSBY, WHO DENIED A PRINTED REPORT THAT HE MIGHT SKIP THE ALL-STAR GAME TO PROTEST THE LACK OF PUNISHMENT FOR PLAYERS WHO INFLICTED HEAD HITS ON HIM.

Opinion

BRIAN COSTELLO
THE HOCKEY NEWS

TOO SOON FOR FLAMES TO GIVE UP ON KIPPER

While it's probably true Miikka Kiprusoff is having his weakest season since becoming a Calgary Flame in 2003-04, he's still a top-notch goalie with plenty of outstanding performances left in him.

True, Kipper is going through a rough patch and his .901 save percentage ranks a lowly 36th among the most active 50 goalies in the NHL. True, he has let in more than his usual quota of softies. And true, he is trade fodder for a franchise desperately in need of a rebuild.

But unless acting GM Jay Feaster receives a trade offer he can't turn down (like a blue-chip prospect and first-round draft pick) and unless Kiprusoff is willing to waive his no-trade clause, the 34-year-old Finn will remain the No. 1 man in Calgary's crease.

Swedish rookie Henrik Karlsson has done an admirable job in limited starts and mopping up Kipper's messes twice in the past four games, but it's far too early to consider Karlsson the real deal.

And in no way should the Flames think of Karlsson as a viable No. 1 man unless the team is really trying to tank it and go for early picks the next few drafts.

Karlsson, 27, is tall with long butterfly legs that cover a lot of low open space. But he is extremely susceptible to high shots, especially on the glove side, and the rest of the league knows it.

With advance scouting the way it is in today's game, not to mention chit-chat, text messages and emails among the league's insiders, it wasn't long after Karlsson's 6-5 loss to Colorado Oct. 28 that word was out to go high glove on Karlsson. And that's been the Swede's Achilles heel ever since.

When shooters have time and space, they go high glove because Karlsson's first defensive move is to drop down into the butterfly and lurch his torso forward.

Whether or not Karlsson can correct this will determine his staying power in the NHL. In the meantime, Kiprusoff will surely get his mojo back.

It's highly unlikely to translate into a playoff spot for a team with far too many average performers, but it will keep the team competitive.

And if that means a real Stanley Cup contender comes calling with an offer for Kiprusoff that Feaster just can't turn down, then the Flames should take the first step towards a brighter future.

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NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Philadelphia	46	30	11	2	3	158	122	65	14-6-0-2	16-5-2-1	8-2-0-0	W3
d-Boston	46	26	13	2	5	142	103	59	12-8-1-2	14-5-1-3	6-2-1-1	W2
d-Tampa Bay	47	27	15	3	2	140	150	59	14-4-1-1	13-11-2-1	6-4-0-0	W1
Pittsburgh	47	29	14	2	2	150	110	62	15-9-1-0	14-5-1-2	5-3-0-2	W3
Washington	47	25	14	5	3	133	124	58	16-5-2-3	9-9-3-0	5-2-3-0	L1
Montreal	47	26	17	4	0	118	113	56	16-6-3-0	10-11-1-0	6-3-1-0	L1
NY Rangers	47	26	18	2	1	132	115	55	11-10-1-1	15-8-1-0	5-4-1-0	L2
Atlanta	48	23	18	3	4	146	153	53	11-9-1-2	12-9-2-2	4-5-1-0	W1
Carolina	46	22	18	2	4	137	145	50	11-8-1-1	11-10-1-3	4-4-2-0	L2
Buffalo	45	20	20	5	0	123	132	45	11-11-1-0	9-9-4-0	6-3-1-0	W1
Toronto	44	18	21	2	3	114	132	41	9-10-2-2	9-11-0-1	5-4-0-1	L2
Ottawa	47	17	23	4	3	103	144	41	9-13-1-2	8-10-3-1	2-6-0-2	L3
Florida	44	21	20	1	2	121	116	45	11-8-1-2	10-12-0-0	5-3-1-1	L1
NY Islanders	44	14	23	3	4	108	148	35	8-9-1-3	6-14-2-1	4-5-0-1	L1
New Jersey	45	13	29	2	1	90	140	29	7-13-1-1	6-16-0-0	4-5-2-0	W1

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	GP	W	L	OTL	SL	GF	GA	Pts	Home	Away	Last 10	Strk
d-Vancouver	46	29	10	4	3	152	113	65	15-3-1-2	14-7-3-1	6-2-1-1	L2
d-Detroit	46	28	12	4	2	158	135	62	14-5-3-1	14-7-1-1	5-3-1-1	L1
d-Dallas	46	28	13	1	4	135	119	61	15-6-1-3	13-7-0-1	7-2-0-1	W5
Nashville	46	25	15	4	2	124	111	56	11-4-3-2	14-11-1-0	8-2-0-0	W1
Anaheim	49	26	19	2	2	131	136	56	17-7-0-1	9-12-2-1	8-2-0-0	W2
Phoenix	47	23	15	6	3	136	135	55	10-7-3-2	13-8-3-1	6-2-1-1	L2
Chicago	47	25	18	2	2	150	130	54	16-11-0-0	9-7-2-2	5-4-0-1	W1
Colorado	46	24	16	6	0	152	146	54	13-8-3-0	11-8-3-0	5-4-1-0	W2
Minnesota	46	23	18	1	4	117	128	51	11-11-0-2	12-7-1-2	6-4-0-0	W2
San Jose	47	23	19	4	1	136	133	51	11-10-2-1	12-9-2-0	3-7-0-0	W2
St. Louis	45	22	17	2	4	121	129	50	15-8-0-2	7-9-2-2	4-5-0-1	W2
Los Angeles	46	24	21	1	0	134	117	49	15-8-1-0	9-13-0-0	2-8-0-0	L2
Columbus	46	21	20	3	2	120	145	47	12-10-0-1	9-10-3-1	3-5-1-1	L2
Calgary	46	20	20	2	4	126	137	46	11-8-0-1	8-12-2-4	5-2-1-2	L1
Edmonton	45	14	24	1	6	113	155	35	7-12-1-2	7-12-1-3	2-7-0-1	L3

d — division leaders ranked 1-2-3 regardless of points; a team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OTL (overtime loss) or SL (shootout loss) column.

Last night's results
Anaheim 2 Ottawa 1 (SO)
Buffalo 2 Montreal 1 (OT)
Colorado 4 Vancouver 3 (OT)
Minnesota 4 Edmonton 1
Boston 3 Carolina 2
Nashville 5 Phoenix 2
Philadelphia 3 Washington 2 (OT)
Pittsburgh 4 Detroit 1
St. Louis 2 Los Angeles 1
Tampa Bay 3 Columbus 2 (SO)

Monday's results
Montreal 5 Calgary 4 (OT)
Atlanta 3 Florida 2 (SO)
Boston 7 Carolina 0
Dallas 2 Los Angeles 1
New Jersey 5 N.Y. Islanders 2
San Jose 4 Phoenix 2
Tonight's games
All times Eastern
Toronto at N.Y. Rangers, 7 p.m.
Columbus at Florida, 7:30 p.m.
Minnesota at Calgary, 9:30 p.m.

DUCKS 2, SENATORS 1 (SO)

First Period
1. Anaheim, Perry 24 (Ryan, Beleskey) 14:30
Penalties — Mara Ana (holding) 5:49, Parros Ana, Carkner Ott (fighting) 12:33, Blake Ana (tripping) 14:52.
Second Period
2. Ottawa, Fisher 13 (Michalek, Karlsson) 18:19
Penalties — None.
Third Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — None.
Overtime — No Scoring.
Penalties — None.
Shootout — Anaheim wins 1-0
Anaheim (1) — Perry, miss; Ryan, goal.
Ottawa (0) — Alfredsson, miss; Fisher, miss; Karlsson, miss.
Shots on goal by

Anaheim	10	3	12	2—27
Ottawa	15	13	11	1—40

Goal — Anaheim: Hiller (W,23-15-3); Ottawa: Elliott (L,12-16-6). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Anaheim: 0-0; Ottawa: 0-2.
Attendance — 19,515 (19,153) at Ottawa.

SABRES 2, CANADIENS 1 (OT)

First Period
1. Montreal, Desharnais 2 (Hamrlik, Wisniewski) 5:19 (pp)
Penalties — M.Weber Buf (cross-checking) 3:41, Wisniewski Mtl (cross-checking), Kaleta Buf (boarding) 6:28, Gerbe Buf (goaltender interference) 9:14, Kaleta Buf (unsportsmanlike conduct) 20:00.
Second Period
2. Buffalo, Ennis 11 (Vanek, Connolly) 11:21 (pp)
Penalties — Darche Mtl (interference) 9:01, Gill Mtl (slashing) 10:28.
Third Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Y.Weber Mtl (slashing) 2:20, Gomez Mtl, Gerbe Buf (roughing) 16:33, Gomez Mtl (high-sticking) 19:17.
Overtime
3. Buffalo, Pominville 9 (Vanek, Ennis) 1:09 (pp)
Penalties — None.
Shots on goal by

Montreal	7	12	11	0—30
Buffalo	9	16	11	3—39

Goal — Montreal: Price (L,23-15-4); Buffalo: Miller (W,18-14-4). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Montreal: 1-3; Buffalo: 2-4.
Attendance — 18,225 (18,690) at Buffalo, N.Y.

AVALANCHE 4, CANUCKS 3 (OT)

First Period
1. Vancouver, Edler 6 (D.Sedin, H.Sedin) 2:43 (pp)
2. Colorado, Liles 6 (Hejduk, Stastny) 15:41 (pp)
Penalties — Hunwick Col (hooking) 1:45, Burrows Vcr (slashing) 14:22.
Second Period
3. Vancouver, Kesler 25 (Ehrhoff, Edler) 10:15 (pp)
4. Colorado, Jones 15 (Hejduk, Liles) 12:46
5. Vancouver, Shirokov 1 (Kesler, Hamhuis) 18:15
6. Colorado, Hejduk 15 (Stastny, Liles) 19:18 (pp)
Missed penalty shot — Porter Col, 10:55.
Penalties — Glass Vcr (slashing) 4:23, O'Byrne Col (interference) 9:39, Torres Vcr (interference) 18:56.
Third Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Torres Vcr (holding) 7:55, Stastny Col (interference) 12:32.
Overtime
7. Colorado, Jones 16 (Fleischmann, Shattenkirk) 2:52 (pp)
Penalty — H.Sedin Vcr (interference) 0:59.
Shots on goal by

Vancouver	12	18	12	1—43
Colorado	11	9	5	5—30

Goal — Vancouver: Luongo (L,21-8-5); Colorado: Anderson (W,13-9-3). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Vancouver: 2-3; Colorado: 3-5.
Attendance — 12,791 (18,007) at Denver.

WILD 4, OILERS 1

First Period
1. Minnesota, Cullen 10 (Nystrom, Bouchard) 1:39
2. Minnesota, Burns 13 (Brodziak, Havlat) 3:25
Penalties — Schultz Min (delay of game) 9:19, Clutterbuck Min (goaltender interference) 17:26.
Second Period — No Scoring.
Penalties — Staubitz Min (goaltender interference) 3:20, Miettinen Min (tripping) 9:38, Zanon Min (tripping) 9:58, Zanon Min (interference) 15:07.
Third Period
3. Minnesota, Bouchard 3 (Nystrom, Burns) 10:04
4. Minnesota, Brunette 12 (Cullen, Koivu) 12:07 (pp)
5. Edmonton, Paajarvi 6 (Cogliano, Chorney) 16:14 (pp)
Penalties — Omark Edm (holding) 4:52, Havlat Min (roughing), Burns Min, Stortini Edm (fighting, misconduct) Peckham Edm (double roughing) 12:02, Smid Edm (misconduct) 14:23, Staubitz Min (instigating, fighting, game misconduct), Jacques Edm (fighting) 15:52, Peckham Edm (hooking) 18:48.
Shots on goal by

Minnesota	8	9	9	—26
Edmonton	11	12	5	—32

Goal — Minnesota: Khudobin (W,2-1-0); Edmonton: Khabibulin (L,8-20-2). **Power plays (goals-chances)** — Minnesota: 1-3; Edmonton: 1-7.
Attendance — 16,839 (16,839) at Edmonton.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	PT
Crosby, Pgh	32	34	66
Stamkos, TB	35	28	63
D.Sedin, Vcr	27	32	59
St. Louis, TB	19	38	57
H.Sedin, Vcr	9	47	56
B.Richards, Dal	18	36	54
Zetterberg, Det	16	35	51
Perry, Ana	24	26	50
Eriksson, Dal	17	32	49
E.Staal, Car	22	25	47
Kopitar, LA	16	31	47
Ovechkin, Wash	16	30	46
Kesler, Vcr	25	19	44

SOCCER

ASIAN CUP

FIRST ROUND
Yesterday's results
Group C
At Doha, Qatar
Australia 1 Bahrain 0
South Korea 4 India 1

ENGLAND

FA CUP
Third Round Replays
Manchester City 4 Leicester 2
Wolverhampton 5 Doncaster 0
Cardiff 0 Stoke 2 (extra time)

FRANCE

LEAGUE CUP
Semifinals
Montpellier 1 Paris St-Germain 0 (extra time)

ITALY

ITALIAN CUP
Round of 16
Napoli 2 Bologna 1

SCOTLAND

SCOTTISH CUP
Fourth Round
Morton 2 Airdrie Utd 2
Stenhousemuir 0 Stranraer 0
Fourth Round Replays
Ayr 1 Hibernian 0
Dunfermline 5 Montrose 3
Partick Thistle 1 Falkirk 0
Peterhead 1 St. Mirren 6
Ross County 0 Dundee United 0
(Dundee United advances 4-3 on penalty kicks)
PREMIER LEAGUE
Kilmarnock 1 Hearts 2
Rangers 1 Inverness 0

SPAIN

COPA DEL REY
Quarter-finals – Second Leg
Sevilla 3 Villarreal 0
(Sevilla advances on 6-3 aggregate)

TENNIS

AUSTRALIAN OPEN

At Melbourne, Australia
Tuesday's results
MEN
Singles
First Round
Rafael Nadal (1), Spain, def. Marcos Daniel, Brazil, 6-0, 5-0, retired.
Robin Soderling (4), Sweden, def. Potito Starace, Italy, 6-4, 6-2, 6-2.
Andy Murray (5), Britain, def. Karol Beck, Slovakia, 6-3, 6-1, 4-2, retired.
David Ferrer (7), Spain, def. Jarkko Nieminen, Finland, 6-4, 6-3, 1-6, 6-2.
Mikhail Youzhny (10), Russia, def. Marsel Ilhan, Turkey, 6-2, 6-3, 7-6 (5).
Jurgen Melzer (11), Austria, def. Vincent Millot, France, 6-2, 6-4, 6-2.
Jo-Wilfried Tsonga (13), France, def. Philipp Petzschner, Germany, 4-6, 2-6, 6-2, 6-3, 6-4.
Marin Cilic (15), Croatia, def. Donald Young, U.S., 6-3, 6-2, 6-1.
John Isner (20), U.S., def. Florent Serra, France, 6-3, 7-6 (8), 6-3.
Marcos Baghdatis (21), Cyprus, def. Grega Zemlja, Slovenia, 3-6, 7-5, 6-1, 4-6, 6-2.
Michael Llodra (22), France, def. Juan Ignacio Chela, Argentina, 6-3, 3-6, 6-2, 6-4.
Benjamin Becker, Germany, def. Ernests Gulbis (24), Latvia, 7-6 (5), 6-2, 6-4.
David Nalbandian (27), Argentina, def. Lleyton Hewitt, Australia, 3-6, 6-4, 3-6, 7-6 (1), 9-7.
Thomaz Bellucci (30), Brazil, def. Ricardo Mello, Brazil, 7-5, 7-5, 4-6, 3-6, 6-3.
Feliciano Lopez (31), Spain, def. Alejandro Falla, Colombia, 6-3, 7-6 (6), 6-3.
Guillermo Garcia-Lopez (32), Spain, def. Michael Berrer, Germany, 6-4, 6-4, 3-6, 6-3.
Milos Raonic, Thornhill, Ont., def. Bjorn Phau, Germany, 7-6 (3), 6-3, 7-6 (8).
Eduardo Schwank, Argentina, def. Leonardo Mayer, Argentina, 6-2, 6-0, 6-4.
Bernard Tomic, Australia, def. Jeremy Chardy, France, 6-3, 6-2, 7-6 (5).
Michael Russell, U.S., def. Matthew Ebden, Australia, 6-3, 6-2, 5-7, 7-6 (9).
Blaz Kavcic, Slovenia, def. Kevin Anderson, South Africa, 2-6, 6-4, 7-6 (4), 7-6 (5).
Alexandr Dolgopolov, Ukraine, def. Mikhail Kukushkin, Kazakhstan, 6-3, 6-2, 6-4.
Jan Hernych, Czech Republic, def. Denis Istomin, Uzbekistan, 6-3, 6-4, 3-6, 6-2.
Pere Riba, Spain, def. Carsten Ball, Australia, 1-6, 7-6 (5), 6-2, 2-6, 6-4.
Santiago Giraldo, Colombia, def. Rui Machado, Portugal, 6-4, 6-3, 5-7, 6-1.
Juan Martin del Potro, Argentina, def. Dudi Sela, Israel, 7-6 (13), 6-4, 6-4.
Ryan Sweeting, U.S., def. Daniel Gimeno-Traver, Spain, 6-4, 6-4, 6-1.
Radek Stepanek, Czech Republic, def. Denis Gremelmayr, Germany, 6-3, 6-2, 6-3.
Illya Marchenko, Ukraine, def. Ruben Ramirez Hidalgo, Spain, 6-3, 6-4, 6-1.
Gilles Muller, Luxembourg, def. Simon Stadler, Germany, 6-3, 7-6 (5), 6-4.
Richard Berankis, Lithuania, def. Marinko Matosevic, Australia, 6-4, 6-2, 7-5.
Andreas Seppi, Italy, def. Arnaud Clement, France, 3-6, 2-6, 7-5, 6-3, 6-2.
WOMEN
Singles
First Round
Vera Zvonareva (2), Russia, def. Sybille Bammer, Austria, 6-2, 6-1.
Kim Clijsters (3), Belgium, def. Dinara Safina, Russia, 6-0, 6-0.
Sam Stosur (5), Australia, def. Lauren Davis, U.S., 6-1, 6-1.
Jelena Jankovic (7), Serbia, def. Alla Kudryavtseva, Russia, 6-0, 7-6 (5).
Shahar Peer (10), Israel, def. Mathilde Johansson, France, 6-1, 6-1.
Agnieszka Radwanska (12), Poland, def. Kimiko Date-Krumm, Japan, 6-4, 4-6, 7-5.
Nadia Petrova (13), Russia, def. Ksenia Pervak, Russia, 6-2, 6-1.
Anastasia Pavlyuchenkova (16), Russia, def. Kirsten Flipkens, Belgium, 6-4, 7-6 (4).
Maria Kirilenko (18), Russia, def. Romina Oprandi, Italy, 6-3, 5-7, 8-6.
Ekaterina Makarova, Russia, def. Ana Ivanovic (19), Serbia, 3-6, 6-4, 10-8.
Flavia Pennetta (22), Italy, def. Anastasia Rodionova, Australia, 6-2, 6-1.
Alisa Kleybanova (24), Russia, def. Irina Falconi, U.S., 6-1, 6-0.
Petra Kvitova (25), Czech Republic, def. Sally Peers, Australia, 6-2, 6-4.
Maria Jose Martinez Sanchez (26), Spain, def. Greta Arn, Hungary, 6-3, 4-6, 6-2.
Ayumi Morita, Japan, def. Alexandra Dulgheru (27), Romania, 6-4, 6-4.
Lucie Safarova (31), Czech Republic, def. Zhang Shuai, China, 7-5, 4-6, 6-1.
Lourdes Dominguez Lino, Spain, def. Johanna Larsson, Sweden, 6-2, 6-1.
Iveta Benesova, Czech Republic, def. Anabel Medina Garrigues, Spain, 6-0, 6-1.
Anna Chakvetadze, Russia, def. Olga Govortsova, Belarus, 6-3, 6-4.
Bojana Jovanovski, Serbia, def. Chang Kaichen, Taiwan, 7-5, 6-1.
Petra Martic, Croatia, def. Sophie Ferguson, Australia, 7-6 (6), 0-6, 6-3.
Peng Shuai, China, def. Kateryna Bondarenko, Ukraine, 2-6, 6-3, 8-6.
Alize Cornet, France, def. CoCo Vandeweghe, U.S., 6-2, 6-1.
Simona Halep, Romania, def. Anne Kremer, Luxembourg, 6-3, 3-6, 6-2.
Sorana Cirstea, Romania, def. Mirjana Lucic, Croatia, 6-4, 6-2.
Alicia Molik, Australia, def. Roberta Vinci, Italy, 1-6, 6-3, 8-6.
Klara Zakopalova, Czech Republic, def. Melanie Oudin, U.S., 6-1, 3-6, 6-1.
Lesya Tsurenko, Ukraine, def. Patty Schnyder, Switzerland, def. 6-2, 6-3.
Kristina Barrois, Germany, def. Akgul Amanmuradova, Uzbekistan, 6-4, 6-2.
Caroline Garcia, France, def. Varvara Lepchenko, U.S., 7-5, 4-6, 6-3.B
Vera Dushevina, Russia, def. Maria Elena Camerin, Italy, 6-3, 3-6, 6-1.
Carla Suarez Navarro, Spain, def. Christina McHale, U.S., 4-6, 6-3, 6-4.

CYCLING

TOUR DOWN UNDER

At Adelaide, Australia
Yesterday's results
First Stage — 138-kilometres
1. Matthew Goss, Australia, HTCF-Highroad, three hours 17 minutes eight seconds; 2. Andre Greipel, Germany, Omega Pharma-Lotto, same time; 3. Robbie McEwen, Australia, Radio Shack, s.t.; 4. Chris Sutton, Australia, Sky Procycling, s.t.; 5. Elia Viviani, Italy, Liquigas-Cannondale, s.t.; 6. Romain Feillu, France, Vacansoleil-DCM, s.t.; 7. Alessando Ballan, Italy, BMC, s.t.; 8. Inaki Isasi, Spain, Euskaltel-Euskadi, s.t.; 9. Jose Joaquin Rojas, Spain, Movistar, s.t.; 10. Greg Henderson, New Zealand, Sky Procycling, s.t.
11. Manuele Mori, Italy, Lampre-ISD, s.t.; 12. Baden Cooke, Australia, Saxo Bank-Sungard, s.t.; 13. Mirko Selvaggi, Italy, Vacansoleil-DCM, s.t.; 14. Stuart O'Grady, Australia, Leopard Trek, s.t.; 15. Allan Davis, Australia, Astana, s.t.

LACROSSE

NLL

EAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
Toronto	2	2	0	1.000	25	16	—
Boston	2	2	0	1.000	20	13	—
Rochester	2	1	1	.500	20	22	1
Buffalo	2	1	1	.500	18	16	1
Philadelphia	2	0	2	.000	12	19	2

WEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	Pct.	GF	GA	GB
Calgary	3	2	1	.667	30	28	—
Minnesota	2	1	1	.500	26	19	½
Colorado	2	1	1	.500	18	18	½
Washington	3	1	2	.333	30	39	1
Edmonton	2	0	2	.000	14	23	1½

Week Three
Friday's game
Boston at Toronto, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday's games
Rochester at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Toronto at Buffalo, 7:30 p.m.
Edmonton at Minnesota, 8:30 p.m.
Philadelphia at Colorado, 9 p.m.
Washington at Calgary, 9:30 p.m.

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-Boston	31	9	.775	—
d-Miami	30	13	.698	2½
d-Chicago	28	14	.667	4
Atlanta	28	15	.651	4½
Orlando	26	15	.634	5½
New York	22	18	.550	9
Philadelphia	17	23	.425	14
Indiana	16	22	.421	14
Charlotte	16	24	.400	15
Milwaukee	14	24	.368	16
Detroit	15	26	.366	16½
Toronto	13	28	.317	18½
Washington	12	27	.308	18½
New Jersey	10	31	.244	21½
Cleveland	8	32	.200	23

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
d-San Antonio	35	6	.854	—
d-L.A. Lakers	31	12	.721	5
d-Oklahoma City	27	14	.659	8
Utah	27	14	.659	8
Dallas	26	14	.650	8½
New Orleans	26	16	.619	9½
Denver	23	17	.575	11½
Portland	22	20	.524	13½
Memphis	19	22	.463	16
Phoenix	18	21	.462	16
Houston	19	23	.452	16½
Golden State	17	23	.425	17½
L.A. Clippers	15	25	.375	19½
Minnesota	10	32	.238	25½
Sacramento	9	30	.231	25

d — division leader
Last night's results
Atlanta 93 Miami 89 (OT)
Charlotte 83 Chicago 82
Monday's results
Chicago 96 Memphis 84
Phoenix 129 New York 121
Washington 108 Utah 101
Philadelphia 96 Charlotte 92 (OT)
Houston 93 Milwaukee 84
New Orleans 85 Toronto 81
L.A. Clippers 114 Indiana 107
Detroit 103 Dallas 89
Golden State 109 New Jersey 100
Atlanta 100 Sacramento 98
Boston 109 Orlando 106
Portland 113 Minnesota 102
L.A. Lakers 101 Oklahoma City 94
Tonight's games
All times Eastern
Phoenix at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
Utah at New Jersey, 7 p.m.
Philadelphia at Orlando, 7 p.m.
Detroit at Boston, 7:30 p.m.
Washington at Milwaukee, 8 p.m.
Memphis at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
New York at Houston, 8:30 p.m.
Toronto at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Denver, 9 p.m.
L.A. Lakers at Dallas, 9 p.m.
Portland at Sacramento, 10 p.m.
Indiana at Golden State, 10:30 p.m.
Minnesota at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

NFL

DIVISIONAL PLAYOFFS

Sunday's results
AFC — N.Y. Jets 28 New England 21
NFC — Chicago 35 Seattle 24
Saturday's results
AFC — Pittsburgh 31 Baltimore 24
NFC — Green Bay 48 Atlanta 21

CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sunday's games
NFC — Green Bay at Chicago, 3 p.m.
AFC — N.Y. Jets at Pittsburgh, 6:30 p.m.

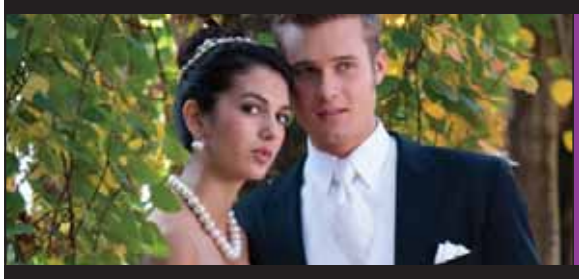
PRO BOWL

Sunday, Jan. 30
At Honolulu
AFC vs. NFC, 7 p.m.

SUPER BOWL

Sunday, Feb. 6
At Arlington, Texas
AFC vs. NFC champions, 6:30 p.m.

Celebrate family & friends



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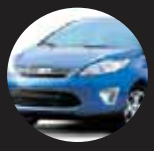
5 drive

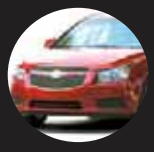
By comparison

Ford Fiesta
Base price: $15,000
New sedan and hatchback models are fun to drive and thrifty to operate.



Mazda3
Base price: $16,600
Sporty sedan and wagon offer decent power and excellent road manners.

Chevrolet Cruze
Base price: $17,000
Compact sedan is a big step up in style and content, compared to Cobalt.



WHEELBASE MEDIA

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Engine performance

The Elantra's all-new 1.8-litre four-cylinder engine is smaller than the previous 2.0-litre unit, but the 1.8 puts out 148 horsepower, a gain of 10 over the 2.0.

It's also about 34 kilograms lighter and is rated at 6.8 l/100 km in the city and a seriously impressive 4.9 l/100 km on the highway, the latter value with either the standard six-speed manual transmission, or optional six-speed automatic. That's a large improvement over the 2010 model.

Sonata-like design

Hyundai's California design studio gets the credit for creating the Elantra's silhouette.

The stylists were obviously pretty satisfied with their work on the 2011 Sonata since they clearly stuck to the same basic pattern, albeit in a somewhat smaller scale.

Mid-size status

The end result of Hyundai's artistic handiwork is an Elantra that's only a couple of centimetres longer than the outgoing model, but gains five centimetres between the front and rear wheels and is lower by nearly the same amount.

The result is greater front and rear passenger legroom, while also giving the car a more planted appearance.

From a technical standpoint, the Elantra retains its official mid-size status.

▶ "Wow" is the first word that comes to mind when looking at the new Elantra. Although it shares styling cues with the larger Sonata, the Elantra's proportions seem to work a bit better.

New Elantra brings love at first sight

MALCOLM GUNN
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA
WHEELBASE MEDIA

Hyundai has gone and done it again.

As if stunning new-car buyers with the ultra-sharp Sonata wasn't enough, the hotshot Korean automaker has just introduced its fifth-generation knock-your-socks-off Elantra sedan.

For anyone unfamiliar with the Korean automaker's model lineup, the Elantra slots between the entry-level Accent and the larger Sonata in Hyundai's pecking order.

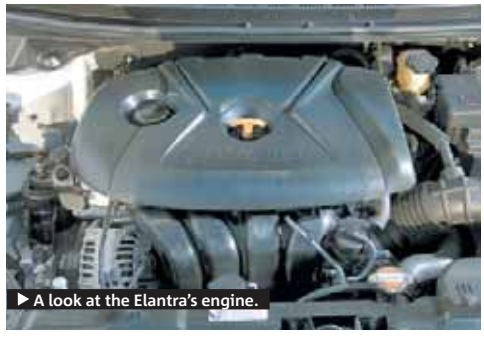
It was last updated for the 2007 model year and charmed buyers with a combination of generous interior space and extensive standard comfort and safety features.

Those stellar attributes led to a significant uptick in Hyundai converts, despite the fact that the car's nondescript sheetmetal and underwhelming fuel economy numbers garnered tsk-tsk finger wagging from some quarters.

Whether it was stung from such admonishments, Hyundai's all-new 2011 Elantra, which should reach dealers in high volumes by early 2011, addresses both fuel economy and style while improving on several areas where it's already perceived as being dominant.

Dial in a competitive price tag and the Elantra would appear to have mass-transit appeal written all over it.

▶ The interior appears sculpted and crafted, and that's a big compliment for a car in this price range. What's missing? Air conditioning in the base model.



▶ A look at the Elantra's engine.

4

For 2011 there are four Elantra trim levels, ranging in price from $17,350 to $24,200.

Hyundai Elantra

What you should know about the 2011 Hyundai Elantra.

- **Type:** Four-door, front-wheel-drive compact sedan.
- **Engine (hp):** 1.8-litre DOHC four-cylinder (148).
- **Transmission:** Six-speed manual; six-speed automatic (opt.).
- **Market Position:** Compact sedans connect with first-time buyers who want inexpensive, fun-to-drive cars. The Elantra fits the bill and has been a sales thorn in the sides of the Honda Civic, Toyota Corolla plus domestic brands for years.
- **Stats:** L/100 km (city/hwy) 6.8/4.9 (AT).

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Jeep Grand Cherokee Overland shown.§

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New Premium Interior

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Jeep.ca/Offers

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All the sexy exotics, dramatic concepts, and big introductions of the Detroit auto show can be found on the main floor of Cobo Hall.

Michigan Hall is also part of the show, but down an escalator. It's where you'll find various green-themed exhibits, and a completely normal-looking Toyota Venza.

But in fact this particular Venza is an acoustical wonder — it plays music without speakers.

This "speaker-less" car was put together by a Canadian company no less, AVG of Scarborough, Ont.

AVG has already partnered with Bongoivi Acoustics to create the world's first completely digital sound processor accessory certified for automotive use, the Bongoivi DPS (Digital Power Station) now available on all Toyota vehicles.

You audiophiles out there have probably figured out already that this Venza uses transducers.

A transducer is basically just the bottom part of a speaker — the heavier part that makes the top "paper cone" section vibrate. To make sounds, a transducer must find something else to vibrate. In the Venza they vibrate the A-pillar trim panels and the entire headliner. So, yes, it's not really a speaker-less car — because the car's interior has actually become the speaker.

And don't think this is easy.

Rob Hamelink is a chief engineer at Johnson Controls, a world-class auto supplier specializing in interior design and systems, and the third company involved in this speaker-less initiative. He told me that this is not the first attempt to get transducers into vehicles.

"In the past we spent a lot of time, energy and cost, trying to engineer the interior materials to have certain (transducer-friendly) properties."

But these efforts didn't create great sound, and the costs of such systems didn't make them "manufacture-able."

Enter music legend, Tony Bongiovi, and his digital processor technology. Bongiovi gave me this short-form version of how it works: "Basically the DPS has the capability to re-mix the music before it's played in the vehicle. We know what we have to compensate for in the vehicle, and can re-mix the material to fit that environment."

In this way, the interior materials can be regular "cost effective" types.

According to Bongiovi the sound inside the car is also improved over traditional systems, because the sound is, "higher, closer to ear level… Traditional car speakers are located lower, usually in the door panels. In this Venza the sound is coming from above and all around."

▶ Joining the speaker-less Toyota Venza at Detroit was the Johnson Controls "ie:3" — an electric car concept that showcased new battery technology, as well as a similar transducer-based sound system.

▶ Roof-mounted transducers transform a section of the headliner (shown in blue) into a "speaker."

Another benefit is weight. "A similar sounding system would weigh twice as much," notes Hamelink. He adds that the technology also enables interior engineers to do something else with the spaces that were previously occupied by large speakers.

The team feels we will see and hear "speaker-less" cars in two or three years. Any interior that will need to be designed or re-designed from this day forward will be a candidate.

After an affordable coupe?

▶ Used Monte Carlo looks solid and affordable ▶ Just avoid the 3.4-L engine

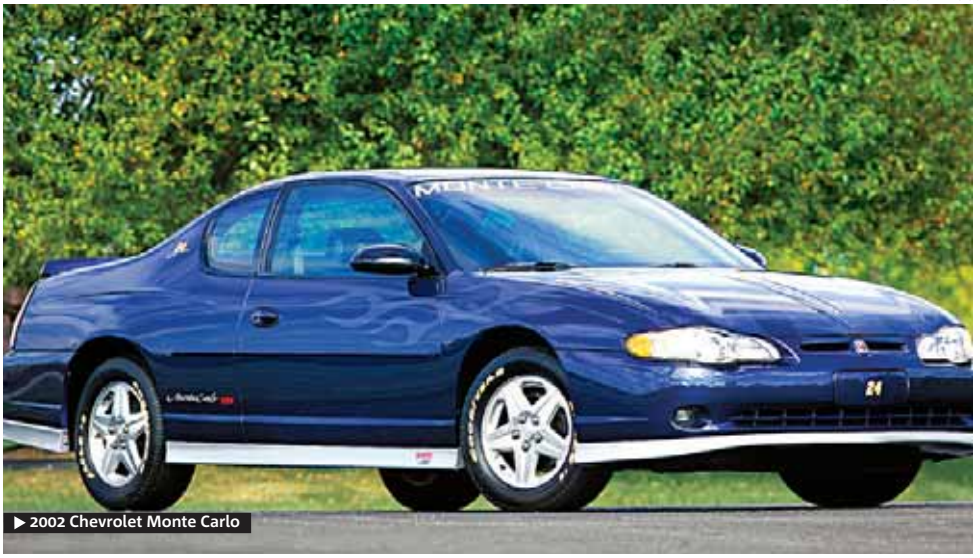
SECOND GEAR

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA

THE 4-1-1

- **Model:** 2000 to 2005 Chevrolet Monte Carlo
- **Vehicle Type:** 2-door coupe
- **Approximate used price range:** $1,500 to $12,000

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE PHOTO



▶ 2002 Chevrolet Monte Carlo

After a big, comfortable and upscale coupe? Don't want to spend an arm and a leg? Looking for sizing like a sedan but the expressive and personal appeal of a two-door?

If so, the Chevrolet Monte Carlo might be right for you.

Sure — it's no G35 or 3-Series, but the Monte Carlo's last generation was popular with shoppers after a sporty and comfortable cruiser that wouldn't break the bank.

Thanks to good 'ole American car resale values, you can probably find one for a steal, too.

This front-drive coupe was available in several trim levels and with several engines, as well as a variety of commemorative and special editions. Finding a Monte Carlo that suits your fancy shouldn't pose a problem.

Under the hood, look for a 3.4 litre, 180-horsepower V6. Due to well-documented problems with coolant and head-gaskets, this engine is best avoided.

The recommended engine for a used shopper is GM's staple '3800' 3.8 litre V6 with about 200 horsepower. A supercharged variant was available with 240. All models got a four-speed automatic transmission and drove the front wheels.

Look for options including side airbags, tire pressure monitoring, traction control, OnStar and satellite radio — depending on the model in question.

What Owners Like

Monte Carlo owners typically love their machines. Power, styling, mileage and stability in winter driving are all praised. Ditto the powerful brakes, high-end audio system and spacious, user-friendly interior.

What Owners Hate

Typical gripe points include difficult rear-seat access, limited headroom, and many low-budget interior parts.

Common Issues

Considering a used Monte Carlo?

Think durability. Owners report peeling and fading dash plastics, controls that 'rub' off with use and premature brake and tire wear. Scrutinize the Monte Carlo's interior and consumable parts for signs of excessive wear.

Ensure proper operation of the used Monte Carlo's air conditioning as well. It should blow icy cold within in a few seconds.

Any model should be given a mechanical going-over by a GM-trained mechanic. If you find a fantastic deal on a model with the 3.4 litre engine, be absolutely certain to have it checked for signs of head-gasket failure.

Your nearest GM dealer should be familiar with the trouble signs.

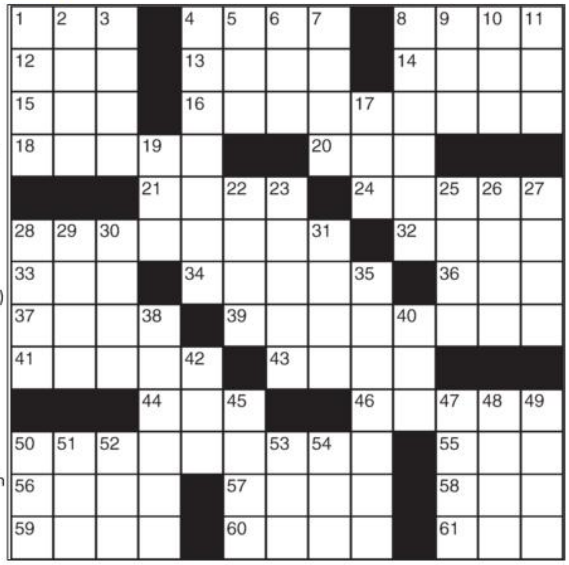
Opting for the larger 3.8 litre engine? Other than a potential intake manifold gasket problem, it can likely be expected to be trouble free.

Same deal for the automatic transmission. Though they appear to be fairly un-problematic, several owners have reported hard shifting as the beginning of potential transmission issues which seem hard to diagnose.

The Verdict

Find a good deal on a well-maintained used Monte Carlo, and you'll likely enjoy an affordable, comfortable and stylish coupe for years to come.

Crossword



Across

1 Triangular sail
4 PBS science show
8 Item on stage
12 Exist
13 Newspaper page
14 Volcanic flow
15 Sheepish remark?
16 1980 Robbie Dupree hit
18 — Valley (1960 Olympics site)
20 Periodi-cal, for short
21 Part of SMU (Abbr.)
24 Former larvae
28 2000 Tom Hanks movie
32 Otherwise
33 Shade
34 Forbidden
36 Lubricate
37 List-ending abbr.
39 Formally relinquish
41 Page number
43 Even
44 Loud dance
46 Proclamation
50 To start prematurely
55 Twosome
56 PC picture
57 Portrayal
58 Work unit
59 Wild and crazy
60 Couldn't keep a secret
61 Lawyers' org.

Down

1 Pokes
2 Mideast nation
3 Suitor
4 "Piece of cake"
5 Choose
6 Churchill gesture
7 He helped raise Cain
8 Pestilence
9 Uncooked
10 Eggs
11 Salary
17 Once around the track
19 Qty.
22 "— the night before ..."
23 Custom
25 Furrow maker
26 Largest of the seven
27 Slithery
28 Kitchen bigwig
29 Car
30 Caulk
31 Boo-Boo's mentor
35 Like a Cyclops
38 Lengthy recitation
40 Toss in
42 Erstwhile acorn
45 Section
47 Concept
48 "— Your Enthusiasm"
49 Frat party outfit
50 Job, jocularly
51 HDTV brand
52 A billion years
53 Court
54 Every last bit

▶ Yesterday's answer

P	L	E	A		E	C	H	O		B	O	B
H	E	M	S		N	O	E	L		O	D	E
D	A	S	H	B	O	A	R	D		A	I	M
			C	A	S	T		L	O	R	N	E
U	R	B	A	N			W	A	R	D		
S	O	O	N		H	O	E	D	O	W	N	S
E	T	A		D	I	A	R	Y		A	A	H
D	E	R	R	I	E	R	E		O	L	I	O
		D	I	G	S			A	N	K	L	E
H	O	R	D	E		M	A	L	I			
A	B	O		S	N	O	W	B	O	A	R	D
N	E	O		T	U	N	A		N	I	C	E
G	Y	M		S	T	A	Y		S	L	A	W

Sudoku

5	3			1		9		4
		2						7
1					4		3	
		8	4		5			
9				8				3
			2		6	5		
	6		3					5
8						7		
7		1		2			8	6

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

4	8	7	1	3	9	5	2	6
9	6	3	5	2	8	1	4	7
2	1	5	4	7	6	9	3	8
6	7	1	2	5	3	4	8	9
8	9	4	7	6	1	3	5	2
3	5	2	8	9	4	6	7	1
5	3	8	6	1	2	7	9	4
7	2	6	9	4	5	8	1	3
1	4	9	3	8	7	2	6	5

Send a KISS

Show some love! Send a note to somebody special at kiss@metronews.ca

Foolscap, You are the best - thank you for finding me, I am now complete with you in my life. Here's to our future together. I can't wait! **LUV U SWEETS!**

Hey Tubby, I hope you have a very happy 22nd Birthday. And thanks for not spending it with me. :) **YOURS TRULY, FLUFFY**

Happy Birthday Lissy! You're the light of my life, and more beautiful with each passing year. Let's make this your best year yet! **LOVE YOU ALWAYS, RYAN**

Darling, I can't wait till we can be together at last! Fate has brought us together. I look forward to growing old with you. Every day with you in my life is a good day. **YOUR BLONDE HUNNY XXXX**

Clarke aka Superman, You've been rockin my world lately. You da illest. Stay totes amaze. **LOIS LANE**

A look at the weather

TODAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Min -10° Max -5°	Min -15° Max 5°	Min -4° Max 2°

Andrew Schultz, Meteorologist

BT BREAKFAST TELEVISION

"I get to spread the word on how your day, evening or weekend will shape up with our ever-changing weather here in Alberta". **WEEKDAYS 6AM**

Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 Be proud of what you have achieved and don't let anyone tell you that you should have done more. Some find it easy to criticize because they aren't good at getting things done.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Accusations will fly today, but none of them will stick to you. As far as the world at large is aware, you are purer than pure. It just shows how good you are at keeping secrets!

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 Because today's full moon takes place in the money area of your chart, you would be wise not to take risks with your cash. Don't let smooth talking types persuade you there is easy money to be made.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 Cosmic activity in your opposite sign means you won't get far on your own, not even with the emotional energy of the full moon behind you. You need other people.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 You may lack enthusiasm for the tasks and chores you are expected to do, but that's okay. There will be plenty of time to catch up. For now, spend some quiet time by yourself to think.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 Anything of a creative nature will go well for you today. It will go even better if you make an effort to bring other people into your plans. Let friends and family members know you want them by your side.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 Do you focus on family matters or do you focus on moving up in the world? Only you can decide. But if it gets a bit emotional on the domestic front today, maybe you should spend more time with loved ones.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 Socially, the past few weeks have been fun, but there is one group of people who feel you have been neglecting them. Find ways to remind them they are always in your thoughts.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 There are people out there who think they can pull the wool over your eyes. Be on your guard and watch where your money goes. Suspicion is not always bad.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 Today's full moon in your opposite sign will give you the ability to persuade others to chip in and help with the little tasks that bore you. It will leave you more time to focus on your career.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 You will have to get tough with someone who has let you down. If you let them get away with it this time, you can be sure there will be numerous next times.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20 Believe it or not, some people look up to you as a bit of a role model. Be less inclined to do something which, if it goes wrong, could damage your reputation. SALLY BROMPTON

Caption contest

RENO GAZETTE-JOURNAL/ANDY BARRON/AP

WIN! You write it!

Write a funny caption for the image to the right and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.

MANU FERNANDEZ/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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